



Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet

Release Date

May 11, 2012

Contact: Gwen Heffner

Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

859-985-5448

gwen.heffner@ky.gov debby.giannini@ky.gov

Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea Welcomes Its 2 Millionth Visitor

BEREA, Ky. – At 2:15 p.m. on Friday, May 11, the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea welcomed its 2 millionth visitor, Jennifer Price, from Louisville. Jennifer was traveling on Interstate -75 with her husband, James, and their three young children, Madeline, David and Julianna. Marcheta Sparrow, secretary of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, was on hand to present a Kentucky gift basket to Jennifer and her family.

“Celebrating the success of the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is a great way to cap off National Travel and Tourism Week,” said Sparrow, who announced earlier in the week that tourism had an economic impact of nearly \$11.7 billion during 2011 in Kentucky.

The Prices said this was the family’s second visit to the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea.

“The artwork and crafts on display here make it a very interesting and great place to stop – even if we are only travelling through the area like today,” Jennifer Price said.

James Price said the family also was able to get important travel information.

“We were headed south to Sevierville (Tenn.), and we were aware of the (I-75) lane closures at Jellico Mountain,” he said. “We knew we could get accurate and up-to-date travel details at the center.”

Dedicated to showcasing the work of Kentucky’s many outstanding artisans, the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is located at 200 Artisan Way, just off Interstate 75 at Berea exit 77. Inside, visitors find exciting opportunities to shop for Kentucky-made crafts, musical recordings, foods, fine art and books; view special exhibitions; explore Kentucky crafts and history; sample Kentucky cuisine; experience Kentucky hospitality and enjoy full traveler services.

Special exhibits currently on display include “About Face: Kentucky Artisan Works Inspired by the Human Face,” through Aug. 26, and “Commissioned to Create: Works by Artists Who Created the Governor’s Awards (1995-2011),” through July 29, an exhibit developed by the Kentucky Arts Council. For information about the center’s programming, call 859-985-5448 or visit the center’s website at www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov

The Center is open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and features annual special exhibitions, a sales gallery and gift shop with fine art and crafts, demonstrations every Saturday by Kentucky artisans, and a cafe open from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., which specializes in Kentucky cuisine.

An agency of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is a contributor to Kentucky Tourism’s economic impact, which increased 3 percent in 2011 from the previous year.



PHOTOS:

TOP: Marcheta Sparrow, secretary of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, presents a Kentucky gift basket to Jennifer Price, the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea's 2 millionth visitor, along with her children Madeline and David Price of Louisville.

BOTTOM: The Price family, of Louisville, receives a Kentucky gift basket to mark the 2 millionth visitors to stop at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea.

L-R

In back row: James Price, Jennifer Price with Julianna in arms, Victoria Faoro, executive director of the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea, and Marcheta Sparrow, Secretary of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet.

In front row: David and Madeline Price of Louisville

High Resolution photos available

Contact: gwen.heffner@ky.gov